

Message Text

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PAGE 01 EC BRU 00393 141933Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00
EB-07 FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-02 SP-02 STR-04
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FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
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UNCLAS EC BRUSSELS 0393

PASS AGRICULTURE ELECTRONICALLY

E.O. 11652:N/A
TAGS:EAGR,EEC
SUBJECT: EC WHEAT FLOUR,BARLEY MALT EXPORT SUBSIDIES

REF:(A)EC BRUSSELS 11890,(B)TOFAS 9

1.AN OFFICIAL IN THE COMMISSION'S GRAIN DIVISION TOLD US
THAT YESTERDAY' GRAIN MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE APPROVED AN
INCREASE IN THE EXPORT SUBSIDY FOR WHEAT FLOUR (ASH CONTENT
O-520 FROM 75 TO 80 U.A./M.T.
SUBSIDIES APPLICABLE TO OTHER QUALITIES OF FLOUR WERE ALSO INCREASED
BY
5 U.A./M.T.THE OFFICIAL SAID THAT THE
INCREASE IN SUBSIDY WAS STILL NOT
ENOUGH TO ENABLE TO THE EC TO MEET THE LOW PRICES BEING
OFFERED BY SOME OF THEIR COMPETITORS; IN PARTICULAR HE
MENTIONED ARGENTINA.

2..THE OFFICIAL ALSO SAID THAT THE EXPORT SUBSIDY ON BARLDY
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BAMT (CXT 11.07AIB,UNCRUSHED,OTHER THAN IN THE FORM OF
FLOUR)HAD BEEN INCREASED FROM 43 TO 53 U.A./100 KG.AGAIN
THE OFFICIAL INSISTED THAT EVEN HIGHER INCREASES WOULD HAVE
BEEN NECESSARY TO MEET THE LOW PRICES OFFERED BY COMPETING
EXPORTERS.HE SAID THAT THE EC HAD BEEN ABLE TO EXPORT BARLEY
MALT IN SIGNIFICANT QUANTITIES ONLY WHERE THEY HAD A MARKED
FREIGHT ADVANTAGE OR WHERE USE HAD BEEN MADE OF INWARD

PROCESSING ARRANGEMENTS.WHILE THE COMMISSION SUSPECTED THAT MALT EXPORTED UNDER INWARD PROCESSING ARRANGEMENTS HAD INCREASED SUBSTANTIALLY THIS YEAR (PARTLY BECAUSE OF THE GENERALLY LOW QUALITY OF EC BARLEY),THEY HAD NO DATA ON SUCH EXPORTS.IN THIS CONNECTION,THE OFFICIAL NOTED THAT THE COMMISSION HAD RECENTLY ISSUED A DIRECTIVE REQUIRING MEMBER STATES TO SUBMIT MONTHLY DATA ON GRAINS IMPORTED UNDER INWARD PROCESSING ARRANGEMENTS AND PROCESSED PRODUCTS EXPORTED UNDER SUCH ARRANGEMENTS (COMMISSION DIRECTIVE 77/16/EEC OF DECEMBER 16, 1976,OFFICIAL JOURNAL NO.L 5 OF JANUARY 7, 1977.

3.THE OFFICIAL SAID THAT THERE WERE NO IMMEDIATE PLANS TO OPEN TENDERS FOR THE EXPORT OF SOFT WHEAT.(THE ONLY GRAIN TENDER OPEN AT PRESENT IS FOR THE EXPORT OF 100,000 TONS OF DURUM WHEAT -- REF.B) HE SAID THAT BECAUSE OF THE HIGH QUALITY OF THE EC WHEAT CROP THIS YEAR,DOMESTIC MILLING UTILIZATION WAS RUNNING AT A HIGH LEVEL AND IMPORTS ARE LOWER THAN EXPECTED. THE EXTENT TO WHICH SOFT WHEAT WILL BE USED FOR LIVESTOCK FEED IS STILL UNCERTAIN.FOR THESE REASONS THERE IS NOT AT PRESENT MUCH EC INTEREST IN WHEAT EXPORTS.
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